

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CAB-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00
INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 L-03 /079 W
-----280932Z 084136 /15

O R 280808Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8042

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

UNCLAS DAKAR 0634

BRUSSELS AND MONROVIA FOR FAA

MONTREAL FOR USMISSION ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR ICAO SG

SUBJECT: ASECNA SUPPORTS GOS POSITION ON SAL FIR

REF: DAKAR 351, 594

1. ASECNA MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE MET IN DAKAR JANUARY 24-26 TO DISCUSS CAPE VERDIAN PROPOSAL FOR CREATION OF SAL FIR. FRANCE WAS REPRESENTED BY AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL, UPPER VOLTA AND MALI SENT MINISTERS, IVORY COAST, CAMEROUN, TOGO AND NIGER HAD HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATIONS, WHILE SIX OTHER MEMBER STATES WERE ABSENT.

2. OPENING MEETING ON JANUARY 24, SENEGALESE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS MAMADOU DIOP REPORTEDLY ASSERTED THAT EXISTENCE OF ASECNA IN WEST AFRICA WOULD BE THREATENED IF CAPE VERDIAN POSITION WAS NOT REJECTED. COMMUNIQUE PUBLISHED UNCLASSIFIED

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JANUARY 27 IN GOVERNMENT OWNED LE SOLEIL INDICATED COMMITTEE HAD VOICED "TOTAL AGREEMENT" WITH SENEGAL IN OPPOSING BREAK-UP OF DAKAR OCEANIC FIR, AND HAD AUTHORIZED SENEGAL TO PURSUE ON BEHALF OF ASECNA ITS EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN STATUS QUO. COMPLETE TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE GIVEN IN PARA 3 BELOW. ORGANIZATION'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED BUT NOT STATEMENT WAS ISSUED ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. QUOTE, THE MINISTERIAL STEERING COMMITTEE, MEETING IN
DAKAR JANUARY 24, 1977,

AFTER HAVING EXAMINED THE NOTE ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE DAKAR
OCEANIC FIR PRESENTED BY THE MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR CIVIL
AVIATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL;
-CONSIDERING THE POLICY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION
ORGANIZATION (ICAO) SEEKING TO AVOID BALKANIZATION OF AIR SPACES;
-CONSIDERING THE POLICY ACCORDING TO WHICH NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY
MUST NOT BE CONFUSED WITH INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY, NOTABLY OVER
THE HIGH SEAS;
-CONSIDERING THAT THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL HAS OPERATED,
THROUGH ASECNA, THE DAKAR OCEANIC FIR SINCE ITS ACCESSION TO
INDEPENDENCE, A PERIOD OF OVER 16 YEARS, AND THAT THE GEOGRAPHIC
BOUNDARIES OF THIS FIR LARGELY SURPASS THE NATIONAL AIRSPACES
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL AND THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE;
REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT TO THE POLICY OF THE ICAO OF WHICH THE
BASIC ASSUMPTION IS THE ORGANIZATION AND CONTROL OF LARGE
AIRSPACES;
DECLARES ITS TOTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE POSITION TAKEN BY THE
REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL DURING THE AIR NAVIGATION MEETING OF THE
CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN REGION (LIMA, OCTOBER 5-28,
1976) CONCERNING THE DAKAR OCEANIC FIR;
TAKES NOTE OF THE DEMARCHES UNDERTAKEN BY THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL
AND ITS WILLINGNESS TO ARRIVE AT AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION, IN
CONFORMITY WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF LIMA,
ON A BILATERAL LEVEL WITH THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE;
NOTES WITH SATISFACTION THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MEASURES DESIGNED
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BOTH TO IMPROVE AIR SECURITY AND ALSO TO INSURE A FLIGHT CONTROL
SERVICE IN THE DAKAR OCEANIC FIR FROM JUNE 1977;
ASKS THE ICAO TO REJECT ANY PLAN TO BREAK UP THE DAKAR OCEANIC FIR;
ASKS THE ASECNA MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY
STEPS TO LEAD THE ICAO COUNCIL TO REJECT ANY PLAN TO BREAK UP
THE DAKAR OCEANIC FIR;
AUTHORIZES THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL TO PURSUE
ON BEHALF OF ALL ASECNA MEMBER GOVERNMENTS ANY POSITIVE ACTIONS
WITH THE COMPETENT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO MAINTAIN THE
DAKAR OCEANIC FIR WITHIN ITS CURRENT LIMITS. END QUOTE.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAKAR00634
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770031-0151
Format: TEL
From: DAKAR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977019/aaaaahxa.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1a8f84de-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DAKAR 351
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3679556
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ASECNA SUPPORTS GOS POSITION ON SAL FIR
TAGS: EAIR, SG, CV, ICAO, ASECNA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1a8f84de-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009